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WORKING OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—ENQUIRING INTO—REPORT ON

79. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) if the Committee constituted to enquire into the working of Co-operative Societies of the State have finished their enquiries and submitted its report to the Government;

(*b*) if not already submitted, what is the reason for this delay?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (*a*).

HILL PADDY SCHEME—PARTICULARS REGARDING

80. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Hill Paddy Scheme has been either completely or partially given up and if so why;

(*b*) whether whole or portions of any block has or have been leased to cultivators;

(*c*) if answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative how and when it became feasible to the Government to do so in view of the answer given by the Government to question number 171 (*b*) on 6th August 1943;

(*d*) whether the views and opinions of the public have been in any manner ascertained in the matter of these leases?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) The Hill Paddy Scheme has been partially given up because it seemed to be advantageous to give the Hill Paddy areas on lease.

(*b*) Yes; some portions have been leased to cultivators.

(*c*) Early in December 1943 Government reviewed the position and passed order to lease the entire area to agriculturists. This arrangement is more advantageous.

(*d*) Yes; the areas in the several blocks were leased out in consultation with local Committees that were formed for the purpose.

81. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the actual cost incurred on the Hill Paddy Scheme from 1st Chingam 1119, to 1st Edavam 1119;

(*b*) the total amount realised by the sale of the products of cultivation within the same period?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Rs. 2,38,826—9—1.

(*b*) Rs. 40,701—7—4.

82. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) have all the areas under the Hill Paddy Scheme advertised for lease been leased out;

(*b*) had any of the lessees applied for loans;

(*c*) whether such loans have been granted and if so the total amount of such loans;

(*d*) whether any of the lessees had applied for loan of seed grain and if granted the total quantity of such loans?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) No. Only 3814 acres of lands have been leased out so far.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. Implements and seeds worth Rs. 309—6—0 have been issued as loan to Anamala Group Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd., No. 478.

(*d*) Yes. Modan seeds 100 paras, have been issued as loan to the Anamala Group Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd., No. 478.

EXTENT OF AND LAND REVENUE LEVIED ON WILLINGDON ISLAND

83. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the land revenue per acre levied on the Willingdon Island;

(*b*) the total acreage of the reclamation of the Willingdon Island sold or leased out to the Harbour Authorities and which are within the sphere of administration of the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The question of assessment to land tax of the lands in Willingdon Island is still under consideration.

(*b*) The total extent of the Willingdon Island is 775 acres. Of this, an area of 487 acres has been sold to the Port Authorities. The remaining 288 acres has been leased to them.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether land is not taxed immediately the land is formed.

Mr. President: I thank that is comprised in the answer to (*a*).

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* But what are the reasons for the exception?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no exception. The exact amount that is due on account of land tax has to be fixed and that is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is the principle of levying tax under consideration?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not the principle that is under consideration; it is the amount that is to be levied that is under consideration.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Is tax collected on the land sold to the Port?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

MALABAR HOTEL—LICENSING OF

84. **Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Malabar Hotel has been licensed by the Cochin authorities; if so, the amount of the license fee imposed or collected from them;

(*b*) if not, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for not collecting fees for running a hotel within the State?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No; the question of licensing the D & O trades on Willingdon Island is still under correspondence with the Government of India.

(*b*) Vide answer to sub-division (*a*).

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether this was not the answer given again and again in this House? Why is this matter taking such a long time?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Till the question is finally disposed of, that is the only possible answer. The question is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If the hotel is situated within the limits of Cochin jurisdiction, what is exactly the reason why correspondence was started with the Government of India.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* The reasons urged against the imposition of license fees cannot be disclosed at this stage. The Government have already taken action to see that these hotels are licensed and brought under our own laws.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Why did not the officer concerned impose the tax?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* In the face of the objection raised by the Government of India, it was not considered that we should take unilateral action.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether the Government of India correspondence was after the imposition of the tax or whether you invited correspondence and asked whether you could impose the tax?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* There is no invitation. As a matter of courtesy between the respective Governments which have got functions in this Port, when the question was taken up, there were objections from the officers on the spot and the matter was taken up with the Government of India.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians Ernakulam):* What is the substance of the objections raised by the Government of India?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* At this stage it is not possible to disclose the grounds upon which the objections are raised. The House may rest assured that our Government is trying its level best to see that these hotels are licensed and brought under our own laws.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If on a bit of land which belongs to the Cochin State a hotel is situated and if license fee is imposed upon it, according to the rules of the Government, and if an objection is raised, will the Government refrain from imposing the tax?

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Member is putting a hypothetical question

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